

CHAPTER 1.2.1.

**NOTIFICATION AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL  
INFORMATION**

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Article 1.2.1.2.

1. Countries shall make available to other countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of important aquatic animal *diseases* and their aetiological agents and to assist in achieving better worldwide control of these *diseases*.
2. To achieve this, countries shall comply with the reporting requirements specified in Article 1.2.1.3.
3. To assist in the clear and concise exchange of information, reports shall conform as closely as possible to the current OIE disease reporting format [given in Animal Health Status Reports 1 to 3].

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Article 1.2.1.3.

*Veterinary Administrations* shall send to the OIE:

1. *Notification* by fax, telegram or electronic mail, within 24 hours, of any of the following events:
  - a) for *diseases* [notifiable to] listed by the OIE, the first occurrence or re-occurrence of a *disease* in a country or zone of the country, if the country or zone of the country was previously considered to be free of that particular disease; or
  - b) for *diseases* [notifiable to] listed by the OIE, if the disease has occurred in a new host species, [important new findings that are of epidemiological significance to other countries]; or
  - c) for *diseases* [notifiable to] listed by the OIE, if the disease has occurred with a new pathogen strain or in a new disease manifestation [provisional diagnosis of the disease if this represents important new information of epidemiological significance to other countries]; or
  - d) for *diseases* [not notifiable to] listed by the OIE, if there is potential for international spread of the disease [if there are new findings that are of exceptional epidemiological significance to other countries]; or
  - e) for diseases listed by the OIE, if the disease has zoonotic potential; or
  - f) for diseases not listed by the OIE, if there is a case of an emerging disease or pathogenic agent if there are findings that are of epidemiological significance to other countries.

In deciding whether findings justify immediate *notification*, countries must ensure that they comply with the obligations of Section 1.3 of this *Code* (especially Article 1.3.1.1), to report developments that may have implications for *international trade*.

2. Monthly reports by fax, telegram or electronic mail subsequent to a *notification* under paragraph 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of an incident that justified urgent *notification*. These reports should continue until the *disease* has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable that annual reporting under paragraph 3 will satisfy the obligation of the country to the OIE.
3. Annual reports on the absence or presence and evolution of *diseases* [*notifiable to*] listed by the OIE, and findings of epidemiological importance to other countries with respect to *diseases* that are not listed.

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